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Hark to the bells and cannon's roar  
Which fill the air, and loud hurrahs;  
Along the streets the people pour,  
Upon the ear wild discord jars;  
And who walk here mid clearer space,  
With painted standards held on high,  
Glitter of cross and golden lace,  
And colors such as daze the eye,  
Which savages enjoy?

Is here some meek and saintly face  
Through human service worn and wan,  
The benefactor of a race,  
Of Peace some new-born Washington?  
No! no! ignoble futile scars,  
The brand of rapine, lust and gore  
Mark these sad figures foul from wars:  
God help us! hither comes once more  
The savage — with the gun.

### The Mediation Correspondence.

The first document is a dispatch from Pretoria, dated March 10, which states:

Am officially requested by the governments of the republics to urge your intervention, with view to cessation of hostilities; similar request made to representatives of European powers. Answer.

AMERICAN CONSUL.

Mr. Hay responded:

Your telegram asking offices of United States to bring about cessation of hostilities has been made subject of friendly communication to British government, with expression of President's earnest hope for peace.

Secretary Hay telegraphed Mr. White, secretary of the American embassy at London:

By way of friendly good offices, you will inform British minister of foreign affairs that I am to-day in receipt of a telegram from the United States consul at Pretoria, reporting that the governments of the two African republics request President's intervention with a view to cessation of hostilities, and that a similar request is made to the representatives of European powers. In communicating this request, I am directed by the President to express his earnest hope that a way to bring about peace may be found, and to say that he would be glad to aid in any friendly manner to promote so happy a result.

Mr. White replied to Mr. Hay, under date of March 13:

I communicated yesterday to the under-secretary for foreign affairs, having been unable to see Lord Salisbury, the contents of your telegram dated 10th instant. To-day I have had an interview with his lordship, who requested me to thank the President for the friendly interest shown by him, and added that her majesty's government cannot accept the intervention of any other power.

Mr. Hay telegraphed the consul at Pretoria, under date of March 14, the following:

Your communication of request of republics for intervention of President to cause cessation of hostilities was at once conveyed to British government, with expression President's gratification could he aid to promote peace.

Our embassy, London, replies that Lord Salisbury thanks President for friendly interest shown, and adds her majesty's government cannot accept intervention of any other power.

### War.

*Translated from the French.*

BY F. E. EMRICK.

[Fragments of a great drama yet unfinished.]

#### SCENE I.

*In the camp of the Boers before Mafeking. Boers, in a reclining attitude, grouped around a pastor, who is reading from the Bible.*

THE PASTOR [*reading*]: "If thy enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink." Brethren, do not forget that you are Christians. Kill as many English as possible; but if they hunger . . .

A BOER: I very well know that they are hungry. They are eating their last horses. So much the better; otherwise the city would not surrender so quickly.

THE PASTOR: If they hunger, if they thirst, if they are wounded, you must help them.

A BOER: Kill them at once; we will see to that afterwards.

THE PASTOR: In the meantime let us pray: [*praying*] Lord God of armies, since our cause is just, give us the victory; bless our arms and preserve our lives! We also pray Thee, Lord, for our enemies as Thou hast commanded. Pardon them for compelling us to kill them. Receive into thy heaven those among them who shall die in the faith. They are our brethren, since Thou hast washed them in the blood of Jesus, even as us. As for those who are still hardening their hearts, do not allow our balls to hit them before they repent. We pray Thee to direct our shots so that only those who are ready to appear before Thee may be slain.

ALL THE BOERS: Amen! Amen! To arms! Long live the Republic! Death to the English!

#### SCENE II.

*In Mafeking.*

[Every day in the besieged city there is held a meeting for prayer. More than a thousand officers and soldiers are present, and frequently the general.]

A CHAPLAIN [*reading*]: "You have heard that it has been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor and thou shalt hate thy enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to them that hate you."

A YOUNG SOLDIER FROM LONDON [*who is incredulous*]: These pastors find very strange things in their book, and they are so untimely! Religion is good enough, but is not practical, above all in a time of war, and the government could use its money better than by paying it to folk who do not fight and discourage others.

THE CHAPLAIN: Well, beloved brethren, we are commanded to love our enemies, but also to punish the wicked. The wicked! These Boers are the wicked, and you are punishing them — by killing them. They are in other respects, for the most part, excellent fathers of families, and, still further, our brothers in the faith.